ISBAEL'S NEW COVENANT NOW TO BE ESTABLISHED

So Declares Pastor Russell In Remarkable Sermon.

Messianic Kingdom the Power to Bring About God's Will on Earth.



Brooklyn, December 4.-Pastor Russell continues to use the Academy of Music, our largest Auditorium, when ever he speaks in Brooklyn, the "Tabernacle" being of insufficient capacity. He had a splendid audience today of thoughtful-looking people, evident-

ly chiefly from the middle walks of life. Asked why so few of the wealthy attended, his characteristic reply was: "Of my Master it is written, 'The common people heard him gladly." He spoke from the following text:-

"The Lord, whom ye seek, shall sud-denly come to his temple, even the Mes-senger of the covenant, whom ye delight Behold he shall come, saith Jehovah of Hosts; but who may abide the day of his coming?"-Malachi iii, 1-5.

Six thousand years ago in Eden our Maker, in justly sentencing his disobedient children to death, intimated that ultimately the Seed of the woman would bruise the serpent's head. This hidden promise was the first intimation of the Divine mercy which our gracious Creator purposed in himself from before the foundation of the world. Ever noble, kind and gracious our Creator restrained his mercy for the good of his creatures-that they might learn to appreciate the exceeding sinfulness of sin. For the good of the angels also, and that they might fully know of his justice, as well as of his wisdom and power, God insisted upon dealing with his creatures from the standpoint of exact justice. They had sinned and thereby had forfeited all claim upon the eternal life which he had given them conditionally.

Eternal torment, as we have already seen, did not in any sense or degreeenter into the Divine intention. His sentence upon man, plainly stated, was, "Dying thou shalt die." not, Living thou shalt live in torment. "The soul that sinneth it shall die", (Genesis ii, 17; Ezekiel xviii, 4). God intended to exemplify in his dealings with our race a principle of Divine government to be made operative everywhere-ultimately amongst all his creatures on the spirit plane, as well as upon the earthly.

Long centuries after, in the seventh generation of Adam's children, God spoke prophetically through one of these, Enoch, saying, The Lord cometh with ten thousands of his holy ones to execute justice in the earth-to establish righteousness amongst men. Time passed on, but sin prevailed and the coming of the Great Deliverer was still

Next God spoke to Abraham, after first he had tested his faith and loyalty. To him he mentioned the same great Deliverer who would bruise the serpent's head and who would come in great glory with ten thousands of his holy ones. To Abraham he gave assurance that this One, in some way, would be identified with his posterity, so that he might properly be called the Seed of Abraham. He said, "In thy Seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.'

The Divine Programme was not changed, but more explicit statements were given respecting it. Thereafter all taught of God would know to look for the Messianic blessing through Abraham's Seed. Besides, the Covenant was afterward confirmed with an Oath to Abraham; later, to Isaac; later, to Jacob. That Covenant promise became the basis of God's adoption of the entire nation of Israel-all of Jacob's children. They were heirs of the Abrahamic Covenant-the Oath-Bound Covenant. If so great an honor from the Almighty God has made some/of the Jewish people at times to appear arrogant and proud, let us not forget that to err is human-to forgive, Divine. Perhaps if we were in their stead our imperfections would similarly display themselves.

God's Covenant of the Law.

Israel's experiences of tribulation and bondage in Egypt were probably necessary to prepare them for God's great proposition-that they should keep the Law and as a reward have life ever lasting. As it is written, "He that doeth these things shall live by them' (Leviticus xviii, 5). Israel greatly rejoiced in this manifestation of Divine preference for them more than for all others of humanity. The Law Covenant was mediated. The sacrifice of bulls and of goats made a typical atonement for them for a year, so that they might enter into this Covenant relationship with God. But when they at tempted to keep the Law they were disappointed. They falled. The Law of God being the full measure of a perfect man's ability, and, the Jews, like other men, being imperfect, found that

they had undertaken an impossibility. Not a Jew kept the Law perfectly. Not a Jew, therefore, gained eternal life during the first year. But God, foreknowing this, had made preparation for a repetition of the Atonement Day every year, so that the people might continue striving to attain eter-

nal life. Year after year, century after century, they falled, and discouragement took the place of hope. God was teaching them a great lesson respecting the need of better sacrifices than those of bulls and of goats, and also teaching them that there is no other means of justification in his sight. They got blessings under this Covenant-educational blessings, but not the blessing hoped for, not life eternal. Hence they were not in a position to become, as they had hoped, a national Messiah, a national Seed of Abraham, for the blessing of all the

God gave them kings for a time, but these were unable to accomplish the great things hoped for. But the promise of a personal Messiah was made, and that he should be of the lineage of David, a great King, far superior to the great, wise and rich Solomon,-Messiah would be David's Son and yet David's Lord (Psalm cx, 1; Matthew exil, 42-44). Here, as God intended. Israel began to get the thought of a personal Messiah, a King of Glory, who would use their nation as his instrumentality for the conquering of the world, when every knee should bow and every tongue confess to the giory of God.

A New Covenant and Better Mediator. The next lesson for Israel to learn was that a change of Dispensation must come, that, as Moses had mediated the Law Covenant, so an antitypical Moses, a greater than Moses, would induct them into the blessings and privileges of a still better Covenant, a Covenant more favorable to them and under which they could gain eternal life. This New Covenant was particularly set before them through Jeremiah's prophecy (xxxi, 31-34). And this, combined with the statement of Moses respecting a greater Mediator, helped their faith to take a fresh hold upon the Oath-Bound Abrahamic Promise-"In thy Seed shall all the families of the earth be

blessed." If a great enough Mediator should come as the promised Messenger of God, and should establish a better Covenant, under which Israel could have eternal life, and if he, as the offspring of David, should become their King, then indeed Abraham's Seed, the nation of Israel under that great Mediator-King, would be fully qualified to bless all the families of the earth. The thought of this glory to their nation became a fresh inspiration, and around it gathered the fifty odd thousand of Jews, out of all the tribes of Israel, who returned from Babylonian captivity under the edict of Cyrus, offering them this privilege.

Through the Prophet Ezekiel the Lord again made mention of the fact that their Law Covenant, made at Sinal, must, before their great blessing of restitution, give place to a New Covenant, a better Covenant, Speaking of the time when he would regather them out of all lands and would fulfill to them the promise made to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and make them a great nation, and use them for the blessing of other nations, the Lord declares, "Not for your sakes do I this, O house of Israel, but for my name's sake." He then proceeds to tell them that at the time he would receive them back again into his love and favor he would also humble their pride by restoring the Samaritans and the Sodomites-peoples whom Israel detested as inferiors and sinners.

God declares that neither of these peoples had ever committed as serious sins against Divine goodness as had Israel, and that when he would again bless Israel he would bless also these other peoples in their midst. Let me quote his words; "When thy sisters, Sodom and her daughters, shall return to their former estate, and Samaria and her daughters shall return to their former estate, then thou and thy daughters shall return to your former estate. . . . Nevertheless I will remember my Covenant with thee in the days of thy youth, and I will establish unto thee an everlasting Covenant. * * * and I will give them (Sodomites and Samaritans) unto thee for daughters. but not by thy Covenant (not under the old Law Covenant; but under the New (Law) Covenant of the future), and I will establish my Covenant with thee: * * * (in order that) thou may est remember and be confounded, and never open thy mouth any more, because of thy shame, when I am pacified toward thee for all that thou hast done, saith the Lord God" (Ezekiel

xvi. 55-63). This New and better Covenant is to be mediated through a personal Messlah-a still more glorious Mediator than Moses, a still more glorious King than David-this One whom Israel be gan to look for and to long for. Can we wonder that they failed to identify him in the lowly Nazarene who died at Calvary? We cannot! Nothing but a special assistance of the holy Spirit would enable any one to trace the connection between the glorious pictures of the prophecies and the humble appearance of him who came to fulfill those prophecies. We do see, however, that the great Messiah of Glory, Jesus, in his Second Advent as King of kings and Lord of lords, fills absolutely every demand of Jewish expectation and of prophetic outline. Some can see, but others cannot as yet, that he who was plerced is the same One who, as the Son of God, in great glory is shortly to bless Israel-and all the families of the earth through Israel.

"Abide the Day of His Coming." Our text is from another prophecy speaking of this same great Messiah, the Mediator of the New Covenant. King of kings and Lord of lords, who, as the representative of the great Jehovah, his Father, is to reign until all enemies shall be put down; until Satan shall be bound and, ultimately, shall be crushed until Adam and his race. released from Divine sentence, under

the New Covenant provisions, shall be uplifted out of sin and degradation and death to perfection and everlasting life the unwilling and disobedient being destroyed in the Second Death.

The Prophet Malachi points out that the Messiah of the New Covening whom he announces, is the glorio: Mediator and antitypical King to whom they had waited long and . whom they delighted to think. II would come to the temple-thus imply ing that he would be not only an an titypical Prophet, an antitypical King but also an antitypical Priest-"after the order of Melchisedec"; "A pries upon his throne" (Psalm cx, 4; Zecha riah vi. 13).

But after this joyful proclamation that their long-expected and gloried in Mediator of the New Covenant should be looked for, they were warned th his day would be one of trial, one special testing and proving, that the Lord might find the antitypical Pries: and antitypical Levites to serve in the antitypical Temple. He would be like a refiner of fire to take away the dross and to leave only the pure metal-flery trials and testings being implied. He would "be like fuller's soup," in the sense that a great washing or purging would take place to make ready for the Kingdom the called and chosen

At that time the consecration of Judah and Jerusalem unto the Lord will be accepted as in olden times We may understand that this spirit of devotion is now reviving amongst the Jews and particularly amongst those who are identified with Jerusa lem and the Zionist movement. Hitherto this has been a political move ment in the interest of Jewish nationalization and a home for exiles. Now, however, the due time has come for a real movement of those who have the faith-to draw near to God and to show their faith by helping forward in the restoration of earthly Jerusalem and her interests.

Why Messiah's Coming Delayed. The First-begotten of the Father, as his giorious Agent in the great work of creation, had the honor granted him of becoming the great Messenger of the Covenant, the great Prophet. Priest and King of Israel, the great Michael of Daniel xii. 1. But there were tests connected with his attain ment of this high position: (1) By faith he must lay aside his heavenly glory. in obedience to the Father's will to become a man-not a sinful man, but a perfect man-holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, (2) Thus prepared to become the Redeemer it was his privilege to make full consecration of his earthly interest and the Father's pleasure to beget him of the holy Spirit at Jordan to the spirit na ture on the highest plane. For three and a half years his sacrifice burned upon the altar. It was indeed better than the sacrifice of bulls and goats for it was a corresponding trace for Adam; an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth; a man's life for a man's life. (3 When Jesus had thus sacrificially part ed with his earthly life he experienced resurrection change from human na ture to spiritual, like what he was originally, only higher and more glo rlous. Thus he was at once both a sac-

pleted. Then why did he not at once be gin his great work as Prophet, Priest. King and New Covenant Mediator for Israel and through Israel for the world It was because there was to be more than one sacrifice in the Divine Plan on the Day of Atonement. Throughout this Gospel Age this risen, glorified High Priest, Mediator, Prophet and King has been waiting to inaugurate his glorious Kingdom of blessing-waitin; while a little handful of saints should be selected from the world and tested and found worthy and glorified with himself-a "little flock" out of all man; kind, both Jews and Gentiles,

rifice and the spirit-begotten priest

who offered that sacrifice. When he

arose from the dead, his personal sac-

rifice had ended and his personal per-

fection as a spirit being was com-

When this Bride class shall have completed her sacrifice in and under the merit of the great Priest, then every arrangement for the blessing of Israel as Abraham's seed and of all nations through Israel will have forth with commenced. Thus seen the revelation of Israel's great Messenger of the New Covenant is very important not only to the Jew, but also to the world of mankind, who must receive their blessings under Israel by a compliance with the same New Law Covenant. Moreover, the elect handful of saints drawn, called and gathered dur ing the parenthesis period are also deeply interested in God's glorious Kingdom; for the Divine promise is that they shall be then changed to be like their Master and share his glory.

Judgments Will Be of the Lord.

Notice the further message of the Lord through the Prophet, "I will come near to you to judgment; and i will be, a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those who oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow and the fatherless. and that turn aside the stranger from his right" (verse 50.

Ah, do we not see here plainly stated that the Messianic Kingdom means not only glory and monor to those whom he will accept as servants. but that it means also requirements of faithfulness to the principles of Truth, of purity, of harmony with God? And this lesson for the Jew. under his New Covenant arrangement. will ultimately apply to all nations. Under that new arrangement Israel's New Covenant, all the of the earth will be privileg come "Israelites indeed" thro fulness to the great Prophet King and Mediator of Israel a the families of the earth.



WEATHER BULLETIN.

Published By Authority of the Secretary of Agriculture.

For Palestine and vicinity until 7 . m. Tuesday: Tonight and Tuesday fair; colder tonight.

Temperature: Lowest last night, 44; highest yesterday, 76.

Weather Conditions.

A storm of considerable energy overlies the Ohio, the Tennessee and the lower Mississippi valleys. It has caused rain in the East Gulf states and the central valleys. Precipitation is reported in the North Pacific states, the northern Rocky mountain region and most of the Plains states. It is snowing this morning in Kansas, Nebraska and the lake region. The weather is generally clear in Texas this morning and there has been a decided fall in temperature during the past twenty-four hours. Knoxville reports 1.06 inches rainfall. Fair weather is indicated for this vicinity tonight and Tuesday, with lower tempearture tonight.

> T. R. Taylor, Official in Charge.

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